



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

National Marine Fisheries Service, Southeast Regional Office, 9721 Executive Center Drive N., St. Petersburg, FL 33702

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Greater Amberjack Trip Limit Approved

NOAA Fisheries has published a final rule that will implement a 1,000-lb commercial trip limit for greater amberjack in the South Atlantic Region. The purpose of the trip limit is to protect the greater amberjack resource and to lengthen the fishing season. The trip limit will be effective on October 13, 2000.

A brief review of greater amberjack conservation measures in the South Atlantic Region follows:

Recreational minimum size limit for greater amberjack is 28 inches fork length.

Recreational bag limit is one fish per person per day.

Commercial fishing season begins on May 1.

Commercial quota is 1,169,931 pounds gutted weight.

Commercial minimum size limit for greater amberjack is 36 inches fork length.

During April, commercial fishing season is closed.

During April, Federally-permitted vessels cannot sell greater amberjack.

During April, Federally-permitted dealers cannot buy greater amberjack from vessels with Federal permits.

Copies of Amendment 9, which contain the greater amberjack trip limit measures, can be obtained from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, One Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, SC 29407-4699; phone 843-571-4366; FAX: 843-769-4520.

ADDRESSES: Requests for copies of the final rule should be sent to Peter Eldridge, Southeast Regional Office, NMFS, 9721 Executive Center Drive No., St. Petersburg, FL 33702.

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